

Board of Municipal Utilities
Work Session Minutes
October 15, 2019
201 Miller Road
Avon Lake, Ohio

Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Present: Mr. Abram, Mr. Dzwonczyk, and Mr. Rush.

Also present: CUE Danielson, CUO Munro, Technical Support Specialist Collins, and Jennie Celik and Rich Atoulikian of HDR.

Redundancy/Future Capacity

The CUE presented to the Board the team from HDR. He said that the team has been working on a scope and budget for a project that will help Avon Lake Regional Water with its redundancy and prepare for future capacity. He said that the residents of Avon Lake enjoy some of the lowest water rates in the state, partly due to the regionalization that has been encouraged and supported by the Board. He said that approximately 85% of the water produced at the Water Filtration Plant is delivered to bulk customers outside of the City. The CUE informed the Board that these bulk customers have indicated that they are happy with the relationship because Avon Lake Regional Water works hard to provide safe, reliable water service at a fair price. Staff wants to assure the safety and reliability continues, and believes the best way assure this is to work with HDR to develop a path forward for reducing risk and improving reliability with the Redundancy and Future Capacity Plan.

Mr. Abram asked how HDR comes up with the cost of the scope. Jennie explained that they have a detailed breakdown of the estimated hours and costs. She said that these are estimates, but they are usually very accurate. Mr. Abram asked if all of the tasks were in the proposed fees. Rich informed the Board that each task is broken into many subtasks which include the cost associated with them.

The Chairman asked if HDR was modeling for static and/or dynamic conditions for surge. Jennie informed the Board that HDR can model for both static and dynamic, but the dynamic conditions are not included in the current scope. Rather, actual pressure measurement will be collected to determine if surge is felt. The Chairman stated that the Board wants to be able to model what happens during the breaks for Avon Lake Regional Water's customers. Jennie said that under Task 3 of HDRs scope they will be testing for redundancy and residual pressure, which should address his concerns. Rich added that once the model is built, Avon Lake Regional Water will be able to model any of those emergencies and any additional that staff feels are important.

Mr. Rush asked why the scope did not initially include condition assessment with HDR. The CUE informed the Board that staff understands where Avon Lake Regional Water is regarding the condition of certain assets right now. He said that staff plans to broach condition assessment more in depth in the future, but did not want to include that in the scope with HDR. The Chairman asked if HDR has any expertise in the use of

“WaterGEMS” the modeling software. Jennie confirmed that the staff of HDR does have expertise in using that software. She also said that they use “WaterGEMS” often, and they trust its results. The CUE added that HDR uses a validation process for the results. He said that they will compare actual data with the results in order to calibrate the model. Rich also said that quality assurance and control is an important component of their process.

The Chairman asked what liability HDR is assuming in this contract. He said Avon Lake Regional Water is making a significant investment in this scope. Rich stated that HDR has its reputation on the line regarding this project. Mr. Rush asked if the study includes an alternative to the ETL interconnects. Jennie confirmed that the study does include a review of alternatives. Mr. Abram asked if there was going to be any research into trenchless rehabilitation and rebuilding alternatives. Jennie confirmed with the Board that HDR would also be including that in the study.

Mr. Rush asked if Avon Lake Regional Water will need to update and submit a scope for the Department of Homeland Security which can be accessed by third parties. The CUO confirmed that Avon Lake Regional Water is a protected and classified under the Department of Homeland Security, and that the information in the scope is not accessible by the public. The Chairman asked what other work HDR has completed for other water and sewer systems. Rich informed the Board that HDR does a lot of work internationally. He said that most recently HDR has worked with the state of Pennsylvania Delaware River Water Authority.

The Chairman asked if HDR would be able to benchmark Avon Lake Regional Water to compare results between other similarly situated organizations. Rich informed the Board that HDR could work with AWWA to benchmark Avon Lake Regional Water. The Chairman stated that the Board looks forward to working with HDR on the project and improving Avon Lake Regional Water.

Other Items

None

Adjourn

With no other business, the Mr. Abram moved to adjourn, Mr. Rush seconded. The Chairman concluded the work session at 6:58 PM.

Approved _____ 2019

John Dzwonczyk, Chairman

Todd Danielson, Clerk